# Government of the District of Columbia Office of the Chief Financial Officer



Natwar M. Gandhi Chief Financial Officer

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

The Honorable Vincent C. Gray

Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM:

Natwar M. Gandhi

Chief Financial Officer

DATE:

OCT -2 2008

**SUBJECT:** 

Fiscal Impact Statement: "Approval of Verizon Washington D.C.

Inc.'s Cable Television System Franchise Act of 2008"

**REFERENCE:** 

Draft - No Bill Number Available

#### Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the proposed FY 2009 through FY 2012 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed legislation. The proposed legislation will not require any additional staff or resources to implement and it will add \$200,000 to the District's FY 2009 revenue.

### **Background**

The proposed legislation would grant to Verizon Washington, D.C. ("Verizon") a fifteen year, non-exclusive, revocable cable television system franchise ("Franchise") to provide cable television service in the District. The District's Office of Cable Television ("OCT") currently has franchise agreements with Comcast Cablevision of the District, LLC ("Comcast") and RCN Corporation ("RCN") to provide cable television services to District residences. The proposed legislation would add a third provider, Verizon, to the authorized cable television providers in the District.

## **Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the proposed FY 2009 through FY 2012 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed legislation. The proposed legislation will not require any additional staff or resources to implement. The bill provides, in accordance with current law, as part of the

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Franchise agreement, that Verizon will pay the District an award fee, within 30 days after the Franchise agreement is approved by the Council. The proposed agreement in the bill sets the award fee at \$200,000, which will be paid in FY 2009. The bill provides no further award fees for subsequent fiscal years.